

The Weather:
Ask Dixiedoodle . . .

THE DIXIE

Dixiedoodle Says:
Phooey!

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE DIXIE (31ST) DIVISION

"IT SHALL BE DONE"

VOLUME 1

CAMP BLANDING, FLORIDA, Friday, March 14, 1941

Number 10

Selectee Tells How Army Life Appears To Him

Trainee Robert L. Hinds, Medical Detachment, 155th Infantry, admits that so far, his life seems to be dominated by numbers. Associated for 18 years with his father in a men's clothing store in Tupelo, Miss., it was size 8 1-2 shoe, 15-33 shirt and 34-waist pants. Then came the Selective Service Act and the numbers became larger, then abruptly smaller. A 3,893 national was a 683 local. Local draft board 2 found Hinds fit and now it's serial—34,019,328.

But more important right now to trainee Hinds is the exact number of half-steps he, as number 1 man in the first rank, must take on left-columnar movements. He finds his instructor, Tech. Sgt. T. N. Norsworthy, very helpful here. "Probably the best drill-master in the 31st Division," asserted recruit Hinds, after his one week of drilling.

This typical selectees first impression of the army was a little on the sour side, he says. He and other local draft board 2 numbers arrived at the Camp Shelby Reception Center in a cold, altogether unpleasant rain. Added to this early college-freshman days.

Maybe it was because it wasn't raining, or possibly because hot coffee and sandwiches and then a warm tent help a lot, but he considers his arrival at the Dixie Division much better. He came in at 8:30 in the evening; was assigned to the 156th Infantry from Louisiana and was given coffee and sandwiches upon arrival in the company street. He found officers and non-coms there, considerate. "Strictly military," he said, "but considerate."

Shortly, he was transferred to the 155th Infantry. There he and four other trainees from Tupelo were assigned to the Medical Detachment. They were even placed in the same tent.

About the army in general and
(Continued on page four)

Chinese Rookie Says 31st Okey Doky

In the 116th Service and Ammunition Battery, First Battalion, is one of the few Chinese in our Army, Private Loy Chen Wong, a selectee from St. Petersburg, Florida. Private Wong, 26 and single, was in the laundry business before his Selective Service Board gave him a "ticket." He was born in Canton, China, but has lived since early childhood in this country. He is pleased over the fact that his Battery commander, Lt. Earl Whitehead, asked that he, Wong, be assigned to the Ser. & Amm. Battery, and adds that "being in the army is all right."

SEEKING MATE, MISSMATES

Love is blind to the ordinary things of life they say, and Pvt. Aloysius B. Klienpeter, Co. A, 156th Infantry did his part to prove the old saying is true. Deciding that he needed a new pair of shoes, our hero wandered into a Starke store, and approached by a fair sales-girl, he finally managed to make known that he was in the market for footwear, he was so overwhelmed by the seller, that he bought the first offerings.

Could be that she shared his excitement, for when he attempted to wear his purchase upon return to camp, he found that the two shoes in no way resembled one another. One was even three sizes too small.

General Persons Commends 124th's Infantry Team

The second battalion of the 124th Infantry this week was highly commended by Lieutenant-Colonel C. M. Parkin, director of our Dixie Division schools, in a letter to Major Maxwell C. Snyder, commanding officer of the battalion. The letter carried a complimentary indorsement from Major General John C. Persons, Division commander.

The praise follows the February 20 and 21 "Tactical training of the individual soldier" demonstrations, and during the two days every infantry regiment of the Division visited the second battalion's hand grenade court and witnessed the demonstration, one battalion at a time.

The demonstration was observed by General Persons, representatives of the Fourth Corps Area, and by the commanding generals of the 61st and 62nd Brigades. The letter, a copy of which was sent to all units of the 124th, stated "The officers and men of this battalion deserve commendation for the superior manner of performance and the high morale shown throughout the exacting requirements of repeating the exercises for all troops of the Division during the two days." Another paragraph asserted that "This demonstration would compare favorably with similar demonstrations staged at Service Schools."

Taps for Mobile Man

A military funeral salute for Albert Sidney Crawley, deferred member of Hq. Company, Special Troops, was held by that company March 11 at 5:30 p. m. A member of the unit for several years, Crawley was drowned in Mobile while on a visit home from Spring Hill college.

The service was conducted by Captain Langan who gave a short eulogy on Pvt. Crawley and his connection with the Hq. Company. Following the salute, "Taps" was played.

31sters Welcome 43rders

From Snow To Sand



—Staff Photo
"This isn't like home at all—thank goodness!" exclaimed Sgt. William Mayo, right, to Sgt. Kimble Richmond as the two 172nd Infantrymen examined Blanding's snow-white sand. Their regiment and others of the 43rd Division arrived in camp this week, leaving behind, in their New England home states, six inches of sand-white snow.

124th to Shine Next Sunday

The 124th Infantry will hold its second regimental parade since mobilization Sunday afternoon beginning at 4:45 o'clock, Colonel Fred A. Safay, commanding officer of this Florida regiment, announced this week. The parade will be held on the 124th motor pool.

According to present plans, the selective service trainees recently assigned to the regiment will make their first public appearance, and will march with the men of the companies to which they were assigned past the reviewing stand. Also more than 100 new vehicles recently issued to the regiment will take part in the parade.

Mascotitis?

One Dixie unit kinda likes the idea of having mascots. Company B, 106th Medical Regiment, has a pup named COB, a goat named Hoiman to keep the pup company; two gamecocks, unnamed, and a pair of hens to keep the roosters company.

Family Trait

When the M. P. Company was taking in new members recently Pvt. Jimmy Rimmer, Company I, 155th Infantry, volunteered and relatives all over Mississippi beamed. Pvt. Rimmer's father and three uncles in Canton are policemen.

FREE LAUNDRY NOW

No more worry about clean sheets. From now on, the rich uncle of the 31st Division, our own Uncle Sammy, will foot the bill for clean bed linen. Two sheets and one pillowcase per week is the allotment for each enlisted man. The soiled articles will be assembled at the unit warehouse at a time to enable the laundry trucks to pick them up Monday morning.

Multi-linguist Is Dixie Recruit

Among the gifted individuals here at Camp Blanding is Private First Class David K. Caldwell, of Battery C, 116th F. A. Caldwell reads, writes, and speaks Japanese, French, and English, speaks Russian, and can read Chinese.

Caldwell, a free lance writer by profession, comes with his company from Tampa, but was born in Tokyo, Japan, while his father was secretary at the American embassy there. He is 31 years of age and single. He spent eight years in Siberia at one period in his life when his father was stationed in that vast Russian province. He says "I like the army fine (regardless of the fact that our reporter found him on K. P.) I have a brother in a Canadian tank corps, and my parents are now in China so I have no relatives close enough to worry about."

Dixie Soldiers Extend Helping Hand to Division

By noon today, over 4,000 men of the 43rd Division were in quarters at the south end of camp, taking the area adjoining this division. Since noon Wednesday, convoy after convoy has poured the troops from four New England states into this sand camp. But they did not establish their home without help. For several days, detachments from the 106th Quartermaster have been directing activities of the advance detachments of the newcomers.

Over 40 Dixie Division trucks have assisted in the work of preparing the area for the 43rd, with Dixie Quartermaster officers acting in advisory capacity to the Northern officers. With over 12,000 men to arrive within a week, it was necessary that much work should be done by experienced men in this locality, and the 31st furnished the experience.

Col. J. H. Spengler, Regimental Commander, had the task of assisting them to move into the area, with the assistance of Major Frank V. Barchard, Major Mark Lance and Captain D. H. Clark, Battalion commanders.

Hospitality Deluxe Greets 43rder

One of the first demonstrations of "Southern Hospitality" to our comrades from the east was rendered the other night in Jacksonville. And oddly enough, by M. P.'s.

A soldier from the 43rd Division somehow missed his convoy along the way. He invested all his cash of the moment on a ticket to Jacksonville. Arriving there at night, broke, he spotted an army car, curled up on the back seat and went to sleep. It evolved when he was awakened later that this, of all the cars in Jacksonville, was the one used by Lt. Edge of the M. P. Company, Asst. Provost Marshal. But no charges; they just brought him out to camp and placed him in his new quarters; free of charge.

Two Dixie Units March to Church

"Company front" was the order for the 167th Inf., last Sunday, as the whole regiment, beneath flying guidons and lead by the regimental band, marched to Sunday worship in the 167th Recreation Hall. This is scheduled to be a regular event in the 167th.

Co. H, 156th Inf., an almost entirely Catholic outfit also attended services en masse. They heard Father Bill Keown, 156th Catholic chaplain render the Catholic Mass in the 156th Recreation Hall.

THE DIXIE

Official Newspaper of the
Dixie (31st) Division
Camp Blanding, Florida

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The Dixie is published Friday of each week in the interest of the officers and men of the 31st Division with publication offices at Press Section, Division Headquarters.—Phone 240.

TIN SOLDIERS?

A discussion between several enlisted men brought forth an interesting point the other day. The subject of the conversation was the fact that the National Guard has been regarded by the regular army, and others, as "tin soldiers." No longer are we civilian soldiers. A full time job is on our hands, and credit should go where credit is due. The Dixie Division has proven itself. The Unit fresh from civilian life, moved into a sandy waste at Blanding and with a minimum of griping, set themselves to the task of building a home in the swamp lands around Kingsley Lake. They faced weather, flu, an incomplete camp, and that lost feeling all men have when they first leave home.

Instead of kicking, these men of the Dixie Division pitched in and made the best of the situation. Now we have a city; a city which has grown from a waste, to a place in which almost any convenience can be found. A new Division has just arrived. They too, are fresh from home. They come to a strange section, but this time it is to a different scene. With the experience gained in the past, men from this Division have moved to help, and save them from the mistakes all newcomers make. Yes—it was a hard job and the hours were long, but we faced a tremendous task. Now, with the hardest months behind, we can take a hitch in our belts, face all, and tell the world: "It's a job well done."

THEATRE MEMO

SATURDAY, MARCH 15—

"GRAND OLE OPRY," featuring Weaver Brothers and Elviry.

"BAD MAN FROM RED BUTTE," featuring John Mack Brown, Bob Baker, Fuzzy Knight.

SUNDAY and MONDAY, MARCH 16-17—

"SPRING PARADE," featuring Deanna Durbin, Robert Cummings and Mischa Auer.

TUESDAY, MARCH 18—

"BITTERSWEET," featuring Jeanette MacDonald, Nelson Eddy.

WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, MARCH 19-20—

"DOWN ARGENTINE WAY," featuring Don Ameche, Betty Grable.

FRIDAY, MARCH 21—

"DIAMOND FRONTIER," featuring Victor McLaglen, John Loder, Anne Nagle.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22—

"CAROLINA MOON," featuring Gene Autry, Smiley Burnette.

"I'M NOBODY'S SWEETHEART NOW," featuring Dennis O'Keefe, Constance Moore.

Soldiers of the Cloth



These are 12 of the 13 chaplains who now serve the Dixie Division. The chaplains are charged with duties of providing religious worship, giving spiritual ministrations and moral counsel, and promoting character building and contentment among the military personnel. Statistics compiled by the Division Chaplain show that the chaplains reach 48 percent of this personnel weekly through Sunday Schools, worship services, hospital calls and personal conferences. Chaplains shown above are: Major James N. Faulconer (seated, center), Division Chaplain; Major Victor M. Hovis, 117th F. A.; Capt. Patrick E. Nolan, 116th F. A.; Capt. James L. Sandlin, 155th Inf.; Capt. Charles O. Pate, 106th QM.; Capt. John Hudson, 124th Inf.; 1st Lt. Richard D. Wolcott, 167th Inf.; 1st Lt. Leonard W. Storey, 156th Inf.; 1st Lt. W. J. Koewn, 156th Inf.; 1st Lt. Charles D. Hamilton, 155th Inf.; 1st Lt. Augustus T. Noland, 106th Med.; 1st Lt. Edmond Wells, 114th F. A. —Staff Photo

Picked Non-Corns Are Introduced To Jax Society

Saturday night 100 Dixie Division enlisted men were guests at a dance in their honor given by the Jacksonville Woman's Club which was held in the club building on Riverside Avenue in that city. Sharing the pleasant evening were 35 enlisted men from Fourth Corps Headquarters, stationed in Jacksonville.

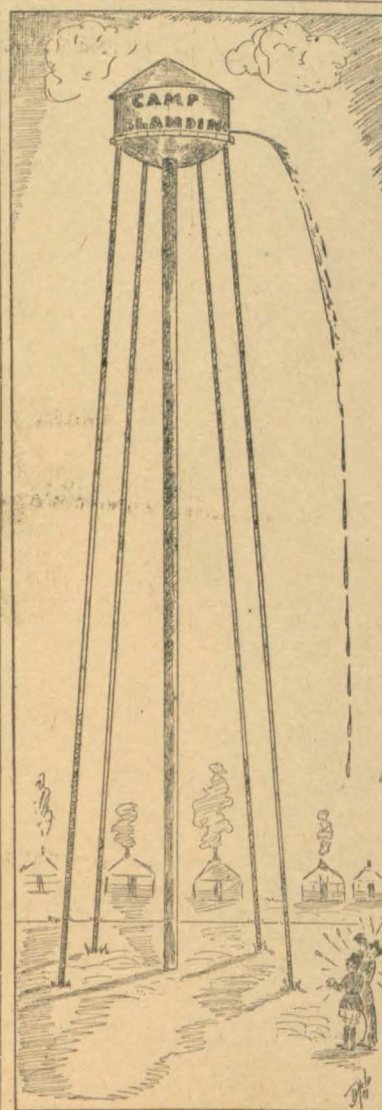
The quota of 100 men from this Division was apportioned among the regiments and regimental commanders selected the men to attend, choosing those whose standard of military training, manner, and bearing was highest. Those selected to participate in the evening of entertainment may consider themselves distinctly and highly honored.

Music for the dance was furnished by a special unit of the WPA Federal Music Project of Jacksonville under the direction of Pierce Drohan. The dance was arranged by the Social Recreation Committee of the Jacksonville Defense Council, of which Mrs. Roy B. Whitaker was acting chairman, although it was officially sponsored by the Jacksonville Woman's Club. The Junior department of the Woman's Club and the Little Women's Club co-operated to make the affair a success by having on hand a sufficient number of young women to entertain the visiting soldiers. Mrs. Spencer Bostwick is chairman of the Junior Department, and Miss Betty McMurray is chairman of the Little Women.

Angus Rosborough, chairman of the Defense Council's Recreation Committee, announced that it was the desire of the committee to give several such dances in the near future, or even several each week to take care of the men in uniform who will be spending their week-ends in Jacksonville.

Double Duty Gifts

Company E of the 106th Medical Regiment evidently wasn't writing enough to folks back home in Fort Myers, Fla. Chaplain Augustus T. Noland wrote the First Christian Church of that city, requesting that a remembrance gift be sent the boys. The remembrance, promptly forwarded, was also a reminder—for each a book of stamps, stationery, and envelopes.



"Sabotage!"



Hung over from that trip home—It seems you can't leave anything up to the judgment of chums. My good buddies Private March Pickett, Private Norman Williams and Corporal John Hathcock were due for their turn at the wheel on the drive home from the Miss. Delta, so this writer curled up on the back seat at Dothan, Alabama and proceeded to catch some much needed rest. With seven or eight hours to make the camp, there was no worry on that score. Five hours later I awoke, with the sounds of loud discussion pounding in my ear. It seemed that the trio could not decide which road to take from Lake City to get to Camp. Reaching the amazing conclusion that asking someone would help, they decided to go to a nearby all-night cafe. When asked which road we should take, the amazed waitress gave a gulp, a giggle and a start and answered: "Lake City? You're in Dothan Ala." It seemed the boys had found a "short cut" home, and somewhere on the way, had made a cute little circle.

Cheer up about those uniforms boys. It seems that the calm brown tone of the enlisted men's clothes is to be preferred to full dress at some times. But on with the story: Colonel McNeese, Division Public Relations Officer, was invited to be guest speaker at quite a large Woman's convention the other week, and feeling his deep honor, he decided to dress for the occasion. Stepping sedately into the lobby, the good Colonel cast an expansive eye around at the gathered matrons. He could feel the general sigh push around the lobby as his array of silver, lace and fancy trimmings caught the eyes of the assembled femmes. Two very attractive ladies approached hesitantly, the Colonel bowed in his most courtly manner (as only the Colonel can do), and looked beamingly upon the newcomers. One of the ladies cast a quick look around the lobby. "Can you tell me where the phone booth is located, boy?" The room spun. The Colonel caught a lungful of breath, his breeding came to the fore, and he replied, in a tone of perfect calm; "Certainly Madam, third door to the right." Colonel McNeese turned his profile, knowing then she would realize her ghastly mistake. With a beautiful smile, the young lady nodded briskly. "Thank you" she said, AND HANDED HIM A QUARTER.

And on our own hook—wonder what he did with the quarter?

Pvt. Webber Hawkins, Battery B, 114th had a strange discovery the other night. While taking a shower in the latrine, he found himself surrounded by Germans. They put him in the hospital, but he claims he was victorious. In case there is a misunderstanding—he had a case of German measles.

Another of those disgusting mistakes: Pvt. H. H. Vail of Btry. D, 114th, had gone to bed the other night, when he heard someone in the next tent say "you win five dollars." He dressed, got his wallet, and went in search of the game. Coming into the tent, he found the radio going full blast on one of those prize programs.

"Blitz" dachshund mascot of Btry. D, 114th, had an accident the other day. With his long wheelbase, the little dog is somewhat unwieldy. As he approached a moving car, he attempted a sudden turn, causing his nether extremity to swing into the line of travel. He will again be about when his broken leg is well.

And add to the irony of fate. The Dixie's new photographer has done such good work of late that it was decided he deserved a raise. The orders went through the proper channels, indorsements were promptly forthcoming, and Pvt. Harrington was notified that he was now a full fledged Corporal. But the payoff came when he figured up the score. He had been a "First and Third," and the promotion cost him exactly two dollars a month.

156th Athletes Set The Pace

With two Jacksonville Golden Gloves winners already on the roster of their company, men of Co. A, 156th Inf., soon expect to add more champions to their roll of honor.

The basketball team, which hasn't lost a game, took their seventh winner from Co. I last week 23-14. High scorer of the Co. A team was Corp. Wilson Gilmore, who made twelve points.

A recent softball team from the company almost white-washed a team made up of newcomers to Co. I last Sunday, taking them 21-3.

Members and substitutes of the winning team were Abraham, Boss, Breaux, M. Easley, Harrison, Forbes, Shendle, Coburn, Duchene, Corona, Thames, Gerald, Bonomo, and Flores.

Junior Eats Glass; Poor Goat's Gone

Policing the area has had to be resumed once more in Battery F, 114th F. A.

The funeral was held one afternoon and as soon as the next day the men, especially the 1st Sgt., could see a need for it.

For the Battery mascot, Junior the goat, was dead. Too much policing had done it. Not content with keeping cigarette butts, paper and other delicacies off the battery street, he tried the tents; there he found a broken light bulb; there he—Policing was resumed.

Watch Your Step

Rules regarding traffic regulations provide that all foot troops within the area will march habitually on the left side of the road with officers at the head and tail of the column. Military Police will stop all vehicles approaching the column at each end when the officer in charge indicates the unit is prepared to cross a road and in the event that no military police are present, the officers of the column will serve.

Dixie Artist Scores

The Dixie hooked up with country-wide circulation again last week when the Army Times, national weekly newspaper for the army, carried with credit lines to The Dixie a 2-column sketch of the 124th Infantry's bagpiper Pvt. Allen and a 5-column Rube Goldberg style cartoon, both drawn by this paper's staff artist Pvt. 1st Class Marshall V. Hale.

The Faulks of Dixie

Major A. L. Faulk and family of the 106th Medical Regiment are Major A. L. Faulk and family of the 106th Medical Regiment. The Major has two sons, Lt. A. L. Faulk, Jr., and Master Sgt. Frazier Faulk, with him in the 106th, leaving only one member, Mrs. A. L. Faulk, the only one not in the service.

Growing Pains

The Army passed the million mark this week, the War Department announced, with the strength estimated at 1,003,500 officers and enlisted men. The regular army has 483,000 and the National Guard in Federal Service and trainees total 484,500. Reserve officers furnish the balance.

Dixie Engineers Blitzkrieg Blanding



It can happen here—and the 106th Engineers prove that invasion of Camp Blanding by water is possible with the use of the combat regiment's portable pontoon bridge equipment. This photograph shows Company C extending the bridge into Kingsley Lake. —Staff Photo

Major Discovers It Doesn't Pay To Kid Dentists

It all started several weeks ago when Major Lester C. O'Neal complained to Captain Arthur D. Adair, regimental dentist about a wisdom tooth giving him trouble. Captain Adair urged extraction of the tooth, but the Major decided to "wait a few days" before taking this step, because after all it's your own business whether you want a tooth pulled and not that of a dentist.

Days stretched into weeks and apparently the matter was forgotten by all (except the dental officer.)

Captain Dave Lewis, suffering with the toothache, walked into the regimental dispensary recently and complained about a defective tooth. A look at the dental chair discouraged him however and he was about ready to go when Major O'Neal decided something had to be done to give the Captain encouragement to go through with the ordeal.

The Major walked calmly up to the chair, sat down and in a low, serious tone of voice informed the dental officer to pull a wisdom tooth. The Major declares he had no idea of having a tooth pulled and that he'll never "joke" with a dentist again.

Captain Adair reached in with the "pliers" and without further ado jerked the tooth out before the Major had time to give any advance warning. Incidentally no anesthetic was used and those who have had wisdom teeth pulled know the pain endured even with "pain killer," the "act" so encouraged Captain Lewis that he too had his tooth extracted.

The Major swears he'll never jest with another dental officer.

Hot-Shot Loader

There's no official count, but reports are that Sgt. Lee Boudreaux, Co. H, 156th Inf., supply sergeant, loaded 27,000 rounds in ammunition belts last week-end for use during target practice.

Bells Toll Again On Bachelor's Row

The second military wedding in the 167th Infantry since mobilization was performed last week when Miss Mary Elizabeth Armstrong was married to Staff Sergeant Wallace O. Allison of the Service Company. Present at the ceremony were members of the Service Company and the Medical Detachment. Chaplain Richard D. Wolcott read the vows and the bride was given in matrimony by her father, Mr. S. C. Armstrong of Birmingham, Ala. Pvt. Ed Smith was best man and Miss Mary Lou Miller was attendant to the bride. At the close of the ceremony a reception was held by members of the service company for the bride and groom.

Dixie Selectee Was Housekeeper

Two professions that vie for honors as the most unique of the selectee Division . . . you can make your own choice as to which one strikes you as being that, but, here they are: Private James P. Brooks, who, before he joined the Army, did "general housekeeping" for his two brothers who operated their farm; Pvt. Brooks desires cooking for his duty in the Army. Next is a Button-Cutter, Private Robert A. McNeely, who operated a machine that cut buttons from fresh water clam shells! (A runner-up to the two is an Ice Maker . . . who will come in very handy this summer, we'll wager!) All three of these soldiers are now in the 167th Infantry, are all from Alabama.

Perfect Scores

Two perfect scores in grenade throwing was the record of Co. A, 156th, at the grenade pits last week. Corp. Royce Hatchett and Private Floyd Glover each lobbed six grenades out of six at the trenches from deep pits.

Specialists All . . . They Feed Army; And Admit It's Tough Job, Too

No one will question the statement that a cook is a hard-working young man. That his is a job they had—well, just rather not have, will be admitted without much pressure from most any K. P. They will question one of his meals whose main dish is, say ham, when they have a particular dislike for ham, and a very warm feeling toward beef; and furthermore will let it be known equally warmly.

But as Cook Leman Inmon, 1st cook for Battery C, 114th F. A., put it, "You can't please 'em all. With a big outfit to feed, it's just natural that some will like ham, and some beef. And," he added, "vice-versa."

Complaints (and sometimes praise too, he admitted) though, come in the day's work. These and many, many more things; and surprisingly, preparing three meals a day, must be classed only of dawn 'til long, long after sundown. The ever present fear that his kitchen won't be spotless for inspection keeps him, and his K. P.'s, on the go even when potatoes aren't being peeled, beans aren't boiling, and demanding "seconds" aren't grumbling.

Speaking of K. P.'s, as lightly we did, the cook finds most of them willing workers. Willingness comes probably from the general cooperative spirit found in the army; or as a just possible source, the K. P.'s knowledge that cooks, like all, can be impressed, and the bigger the impression, the bigger the later helping. Sometimes, though, K. P.'s will slip off during the lull between mid-afternoon and supper, according to Inmon.

But as all cooks must, private Inmon says he likes his job. In fact, wants to be a cook when he gets out. A hotel job, he hopes. And with his year (or more) training, a job shouldn't be hard to find; especially if he goes to one of the army cooking schools, one of his ambitions.

POU TO YOU

Dear Pvt. Pou:

I am a young soldier of twenty-two, who joined the army because I could not afford to get married. Now I have inherited a fortune and could marry the girl of my dreams but she will not consent as long as I am in the service. What shall I do?

(signed) Perturbed.
Resign. (upon ETS).

Dear Pivit Pou:

I noticed your column last week and thought you might help me as well as a soldier. I am a young Starke girl, eighteen years old, and have been told that I am pretty. I have been dating two soldiers at Blanding, and they are very jealous of one another. I have tried to prevent trouble, but the only successful way has been to refuse to date either one of them. Can you help me?

(signed) Worried Innocence.
My Dear Miss Innocence:

It is a change of scene that you need to give you a broad outlook on your problem. I can be contacted by phone at the Press Section, Division Headquarters any afternoon. I will be glad to give you some more personalized assistance, any week end I am not on duty as latrine orderly.

Dear Pvt. Pou:

I have been studying magic by correspondence, and the other day I showed my top-Sarge the progress I was making by causing his hat to vanish. Now I find the company has gone out of business, and I cannot get the next lesson which will permit me to make it reappear. What shall I do.

(signed) Desperate.
Dear Desperate:

Use that last lesson you learned. Go after the hat.

116th Gets Quota Of New Recruits

The 116th Field Artillery enlisted personnel was increased to full wartime strength of 1,145 men this week following assignment to the regiment of 265 Selective Service trainees. Colonel Homer W. Hesterly is commanding officer of the 116th. Approximately one-half of the new men were inducted from Florida and the others from Alabama. The 116th National Guard personnel is from the Tampa, Florida, area.

Soldier, Dismounted

FOR SALE—At a small fraction of original purchase price:

One pair dress boots, (officers).
One pair field boots, (officers).
Two pair new regulation khaki breeches, tailor made, high backs.
One pair light weight "pink" regulation breeches, also tailor made, and of finest quality.

See Lt. Horace G. Towell, Adjutant General's Dept. 31st Division Hq. (Lt. Towell says he can't wear boots'n'spurs in a swivel chair.)

Guardsmen Dies

A group of officers representing Mississippi troops in the 31st Division left here yesterday for Jackson, Miss., to attend the funeral of Colonel Benjamin F. McClellan, for 18 years Asst. Adjutant General for Mississippi. A retired Major from the Regular Army, Colonel McClellan was much beloved by all Mississippi Guardsmen.

Dixie Boxers Set Tourney

A large scale boxing tournament to determine the Dixie Division's champion fighters in seven weight classes will begin April 4, Captain Ben A. Hudson, Division Athletic Officer, announced.

On that date elimination fights will begin in each of the eleven regiments of the Division under supervision of the regimental athletic officer. The regimental champion in each of the seven weights will receive a golden glove inscribed with the name of the regiment, the date, and the weight class. The runner up in each weight will receive a silver glove with similar inscriptions.

The tournament is open to everyone and was especially delayed until next month so the newly arrived selectees may qualify with equal opportunity, Captain Hudson stated. He added that as the fighters qualify (by turning in their names to the regimental athletic officer) they will at first probably be divided into three classes, A, B, and C, according to their ability and experience in boxing. Change of class would come as deserved.

When the 77 regimental champions have been determined, bouts for the Division championship will begin under the direction of a Division Board, not yet appointed. The fights will be held on parade ground "A," located across "C" Road from Division Headquarters Captain Hudson said. The Division champion in each class will receive a handsome gold medal inscribed "31st Division Championship" on the front, with the weight class and date engraved on the back. The 178 gold and silver gloves and medals have been given the Division by the Starke Coca-Cola Bottling Company of Starke, Florida. DeWitt C. Jones of Gainesville is president of the company, and Pon Lippert of Starke is sales manager.

The seven weights in which the fights are being held are heavyweight, 175 pounds and over; light heavyweight, 160 to 175 pounds; middle weight, 147 to 160 pounds; welter weight, 135 to 147 pounds; light weight, 126 to 135 pounds; feather weight, 118 to 126 pounds; and bantam weight, 118 pounds and under. "The date of the Division championship bouts has not been determined, Captain Hudson explained, "because we do not know how heavy the entries will be, and we do not want our boys fighting too many bouts in a short space of time."

Out of the Sand

When longer duck walks are made the 114th Field Artillery will make them. At least, this implication is gained when one looks down the straight 750 foot long duck walk this regiment completed last week connecting the first battalion officers' tents with those of the second battalion officers. The two groups of tents are on opposite sides of the section, and the walk parallels B road behind regimental headquarters. The walk is constructed without spaces between the slats, which lessens the possibility of tripping and prevents the slats from splintering.

Soldier at Play



—Staff Photo

That enraptured look in Tech. Sgt. Paul S. Rodgers' eyes was the same which gleamed from the orbits of a half-hundred Dixie Division NCO's as they danced to the tunes of the 114th Field Artillery's orchestra at St. Augustine, Fla., last Saturday night. Miss Billie Collyer, member of the Sub-Junior Club and one of the hostesses of the dance, was the immediate cause of Sgt. Rodgers' enrapturement when this picture was snapped.

Florida Infantry Welcomes Men

The 124th Infantry Monday received the last installment of its 1,318 Selective Service trainees, bringing the strength of this Florida regiment up to the wartime strength of 2,660 enlisted men. The 124th, under the command of Colonel Fred A. Safay, formerly of Jacksonville, Florida, smoothly absorbed this large body of "new troops," as Colonel Safay aptly calls them, and training is well under way.

In a statement to the selectees last Friday Colonel Safay said: "You are accepted not as 'selectees' but as a component part of this regiment and an equal sharer in the glorious traditions and honor of the 124th Infantry. There will be no distinction made between members of the parent organization and those men who have recently become a valued addition. The heartaches, griefs, and inhibitions which prevailed in many units during the last World War, and which were due largely to animosities between new troops and 'old soldiers,' will have no existence in this regiment."

Sign of Battle

Did you know that Camp Blanding, the training ground of today's soldiers, might have been one of yesteryear's battlefields? Recruit James L. Drummond, digging in the company street of Headquarters Company, Special troops, last week unearthed an almost perfect Indian arrowhead.

Trying Comeback

Attempting a comeback against a "name" team, the Blanding All-Stars, who lost a few weeks ago to Bob Feller's nine 16-15, will take on Babe Ruth's All-Stars at Durkee Field, Jacksonville, next Sunday at 2:30 p. m.

The Bambino himself will be present and will coach his team.

Selectee Tells

(Continued From Page One)

being assigned to a medical detachment instead of the quartermaster corps as he originally hoped to be with his knowledge of clothes, Hinds has taken an interesting philosophical view. He welcomes the change.

"In a sense I regard all of this as a vacation," he said, gesturing with his hand to the groups of selectees being instructed in drilling, calisthenics, trench-digging. "It is something altogether different from the routine I went through back home. A little later on I will learn something about first-aid and medicines; I already know about clothes.

"It is a continuation of my education. I will meet and live with people whom otherwise I would never have known." (He was impressed particularly by the Louisiana soldiers who spoke French.) "After the year, or emergency, is over, I think I can return with a fresh, broadened, slant on things."

Already he admits knowledge of a distinction between "Dress right!" and the right dress.

'The Women' Take Blandin Troops

Don't ever say that soldiers don't like "The Women." But there is a question of whether it was the play "The Women," put on by the Little Theatre of Gainesville in the Special Troops Recreational Hall last Wednesday night, or the 28 attractive girls who acted in the play that attracted the boys most.

Both were winners in any soldier's language. The play, sparked by smart dialogue and witty cracks, kept the audience in an uproar throughout the performance. But the girls who acted it . . . well, there were enough pretty ones to satisfy any man's taste . . . redheads who were as pretty as the brunettes, brunettes who were as pretty as the blondes, and blondes . . . gosh, the blondes!

But the officers stole a jump on the enlisted men. When the group arrived in camp Wednesday afternoon from Gainesville, they were promptly met at the recreation hall by the officers of the Special Troops unit and escorted to supper in the company mess-halls.

How It's Done Now Told By New Text

A new publication by the War Department entitled "Military Courtesy and Discipline" answers the prayers of many a frightened rookie and explains the matter fully with a few changes from old regulations. For instance, soldiers in a convoy on vehicles do not dismount when the National Anthem is played but the Officer in Charge dismounts and salutes while the soldiers remain seated but at attention. Individuals riding in a passenger car or on a motorcycle should dismount and salute. Another departure from previous regulations makes it unnecessary for a soldier or an officer to salute a superior outside the post. The salute is authorized but not required, unless the individual is addressed by a superior. Also, soldiers at mess continue to eat unless the officer directs otherwise, or when a soldier is addressed while eating.

TOO MANY DECORATIONS

According to a memorandum issued by the Third Army Headquarters, some of our more highly paid privates have been wearing entirely too much decoration on their sleeves. It seems that specialists ratings do not deserve those extra stripes below the one top stripe. Only chevrons of the standard type as prescribed in AR 600-35 and issued by the Quartermaster will be worn.

The order also said that uniforms of officers and enlisted men will conform, both on and off duty, in every respect to the specifications therefor and will be worn in the prescribed manner.

Hot Swing Licks Follow Hot Words

You've heard the "Battle of the Sexes," and read about the "Battle of the Marne," but now comes the "Battle of the Bands" which will be fought by the orchestra groups of the 116th and 114th Field Artillery Bands on the night of March 19, (next Wednesday) beginning at 7:30 o'clock. The musical clash will be held in the recently completed Dixie Division recreation hall located in section A-7 on "C" Road.

It all started when a member of the 116th orchestra asserted "We have the best band in camp" in a story he wrote for the "Dixie" recently. The very next week a challenge to the statement burst into the "Dixie" office from the 114th orchestra, and with the challenge came an offer to "play it out" any place, any time, with the audience to choose its favorite.

The orchestras will be comprised of 13 men each, and the 114th, batoned by private Carl Johnstone (a saxophone player), is expected to have a slight edge in the contest, inasmuch as they are one and all former members of the "Mississippians" orchestra, which was the official dance band of the University of Mississippi, located at Oxford. At one time the band toured Europe for a summer, and at other times has filled engagements all over the central South. Several professional musicians are in the band, and, incidentally, the orchestra has three vocal soloists—all supposed to be good.

The 116th orchestra, and the "front" man here is Staff Sergeant Walter Bean, will feature one or two of their Latin music specialties, for which they are justly famous. Sgt. Bean is said to be one of the best solo trumpeters in Florida and expects to be in rare form Wednesday night. The public is invited to attend the "Battle of Bands" and help, with their applause, settle the argument between the Mississippi and Florida orchestras. A representation from the 124th Infantry "swing wing" is especially invited, due to the fact that rumors have reached both the 116th and the 114th that the 124th orchestra considers itself superior to all. The winner Wednesday night will be glad to dispute the "best band" question with any outfit in Camp at a future date.

Walkin' Coonskin

Company A, 167th adds to the list of Camp pets, a real, honest-to-goodness raccoon, caught in the woods by Pvts. J. H. Bell, John E. Hardin and A. C. Powell of this company.

Secretary, Boss Both Join Dixie

Last week the 167th Infantry welcomed more than 900 "sons of the soil" and men from all walks of life, representing every locality in the State of Alabama. They are men selected by the selective service system and are all from Alabama.

These men come from every profession and occupation . . . from "concert pianist to horse doctor" . . . from the coal miner who crawls down into the bowels of the earth each morning to the linesman who climbs a pole each day . . . a chemist, an undertaker, a cattleman, a lawyer's secretary, the lawyer himself, a chiropractor, a music teacher, a trapper, an oil well driller, interior decorator . . . a man who spent two years at the Army's West Point and a concert pianist who has played in famous places and for select audiences.

All these men, in the modern United States Army have an altogether different showing than did the man called to the colors in 1917 . . . Now, under the new set-up of occupational classification, the skilled man is not overlooked. His knowledge is utilized and he is placed in the department where needed. The secretary is placed on file for clerical work . . . the radio operator is immediately taken up by the headquarters company . . . the pre-med student goes to the medical detachment; the butcher and baker are not without a job of their calling. Every skilled man is utilized by the department needing his type of skill.

These men were placed in companies from their home towns as much so as was possible. Many of them have friends of long standing in the companies in which they will soldier.

'Walkie-Talkies' Next For Poor Privates?

"Station C-O-M calling Private Smith . . . Station Co. M calling Private Smith . . . Private Smith, the 'top' wants you in his tent. Come right away."

And over across the street Private Smith yells in reply . . . "Sure . . . Be right there."

Yes sir, owning one of the weakest radio stations in camp . . . one that can hardly be picked up across the company street . . . is the boast of Corporal Lloyd Bell, Co. M, 156th Inf. The one-watter, operating on a frequency of 550 kilocycles under the name C-O-M (Co. M), broadcasts recordings and talks by the corporal to various members of the company on the company street.

High Graders

A class of 37 non-coms in the 124th Infantry Regiment last week completed a three-week Chemical Warfare school course with an average grade of 86.6 percent, which is considered by the instructors as an excellent class average. Highest final grade, 96 percent, was made by Sergeant Arthur Marshall of Company A.

Club for Troubles

A club for discussing and finding solutions to mutual problems was organized by the Sergeants of Company D, 124th Infantry, recently, and bears the name of the "Guidon Club." Officers have been elected and social activities are planned.